



WORK SESSION of the Greenbelt City Council held Wednesday, August 18, 2004, for the purpose of reviewing the Greenbelt East Traffic-Calming Plan.

Mayor Davis started the meeting at 8:05 p.m. It was held in the Senior Classroom of the Community Center.

PRESENT WERE: Council members Konrad E. Herling, Leta M. Mach, Edward V.J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts and Mayor Judith F. Davis.

STAFF PRESENT WERE: Michael P. McLaughlin, City Manager; Celia Craze, Director, Planning and Community Development; and David E. Moran, Assistant City Manager.

ALSO PRESENT WERE: Sheldon Goldberg and Derek Thompson, Windsor Green, and Natasha Brown, the Gazette.

Mayor Davis asked if all of the homeowner associations (HOAs) in Greenbelt East had been consulted. Ms. Craze responded that all HOAs had reviewed the plan and this plan reflected their input. She noted that a number of months had passed since these reviews had occurred. Ms. Craze suggested that if Council was conceptually supportive of the plan, it be referred again to the HOAs for an additional review.

Ms. Craze reported that her cost estimates were based on existing NZI contracts that the City currently uses. She envisioned that design work could occur in the winter and construction work could begin in the spring.

Ms. Craze went over the specifics of the plan. While discussing the proposed speed humps on Hanover Parkway near the crosswalk between the overpass and Eleanor Roosevelt, Mayor Davis asked if this would push people onto the parking lots as a shortcut. Ms. Craze responded that studies have shown that speed humps do not cause drivers to try and avoid the humps.

Councilmember Mach noted that the Advisory Committee on Education (ACE) was looking traffic problems on Greenbelt Road and Hanover Parkway related to the start of school and was sending a report to Council. Ms. Mach stated that one of ACE's possible recommended solutions was a double left turn lane from Greenbelt Road onto Hanover Parkway.

In response to Council questions, Ms. Craze reported the plan included proposals for fence removal, grading and landscape work at both ends of Mandan Road. Ms. Craze noted the installation of landscaped islands and circles (not roundabouts) on Ora Glen Drive. There was discussion about vehicle movements through these circles. Ms. Craze suggested Lake Arbor Drive as a model.

Mr. Thompson asked about crosswalks on Ora Glen Drive. Ms. Craze wanted to evaluate that area for crosswalks and pedestrian connections and return to Council with an addendum showing additional crosswalks.

Ms. Craze reviewed proposed treatments on Greenbrook Drive, Mathew Street and Megan Lane. She stated that the proposed traffic circle at Megan Lane and Craddock Drive was the most controversial for the neighborhood. Ms. Craze reported that a majority of residents favored a circle so that was what is being proposed.

Mr. Roberts suggested adding speed humps on Hanover Parkway near Greenspring II. Mayor Davis and Ms. Mach were inclined to wait until the plan was implemented and make additional calming measures if needed. Council discussed a three-month period to evaluate the effectiveness of the new calming devices. Ms. Craze also suggested that staff would re-study these segments.

Ms. Craze reviewed the rest of the proposals for Hanover Parkway.

Council discussed next steps. Council agreed to refer the plan to the Advisory Planning Board, the Public Safety Advisory Committee and the Advisory Committee on Education. Mr. Roberts favored holding a Public Hearing and Council agreed to hold it at the second meeting in September.

Other Business

Mr. Moran discussed the date for the Advisory Group Appreciation Dinner. Council directed staff to schedule the dinner for October 10.

The meeting ended at 10:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
David E. Moran
Assistant City Manager